Statement-II

Percentage of Population below poverty line of social groups by States-2004-05

Sl. No.	States	Rural				Urban			
		ST	SC	OBC	Others	ST	SC	OBC	Others
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.5	15.4	9.5	4.1	50.0	39.9	28.9	20.6
2	Assam	14.1	27.7	18.8	25.4	4.8	8.6	8.6	4.2
3.	Bihar	53.3	64.0	37.8	26.6	57.2	67.2	41.4	18.3
4.	Chhattisgarh	54.7	32.7	33.9	29.2	41.0	52.0	52.7	21.4
5.	Delhi	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.6	9.4	35.8	18.3	6.4
6.	Gujarat	34.7	21.8	19.1	4.8	21.4	16.0	22.9	7.0
7.	Haryana	0.0	26.8	13.9	4.2	4.6	33.4	22.5	5.9
8.	Himachal Pradesh	14.9	19.6	9.1	6.4	2.4	5.6	10.1	2.0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	8.8	5.2	10.0	3.3	0.0	13.7	4.8	7.8
10.	Jharkhand	54.2	57.9	40.2	37.1	45.1	47.2	19.1	9.2
11.	Karnataka	23.5	31.8	20.9	13.8	58.3	50.6	39.1	20.3
12.	Kerala	44.3	21.6	13.7	6.6	19.2	32.5	24.3	7.8
13.	Madhya Pradesh	55.6	42.8	29.6	13.4	44.7	67.3	55.5	20.8
14.	Maharashtra	58.6	44.8	23.9	18.9	40.4	43.2	35.6	26.8
15.	Orissa	75.6	50.2	36.9	23.4	51.8	72.6	50.2	28.9
16.	Punjab	30.7	14.6	10.6	2.2	2.1	16.1	8.4	2.9
17.	Rajasthan	32.6	28.7	13.1	8.2	24.1	52.1	35.6	20.7
18.	Tamil Nadu	32.1	31.2	19.8	19.1	32.5	40.2	20.9	6.5
19.	Uttar Pradesh	32.4	44.8	32.9	19.7	37.4	44.9	36.6	19.2
20.	Uttarakhand	43.2	54.2	44.8	33.5	54.4	65.7	46.5	25.5
21.	West Bengal	42.4	29.5	18.3	27.5	25.7	28.5	10.4	13.0
	All India:	**47.3**	**36.8**	**26.7**	**16.1**	**33.3**	**39.9**	**31.4**	**16.0**

Legent SC=Scheduled Castes, ST=Scheduled Tribes, OBC=Other Backward Castes

NB. 1. The poverty ratios among the social groups are estimated from the percentage distribution of persons of the respective social groups as obtained from the large sample survey consumer expenditure data of the NSS (61st Round, July 2004 to June 2005) and the poverty line for all population.

2. The poverty ratios are based on URP (Uniform Recall Period) consumption distribution of NSS 61st round (July, 2004-June, 2005) in which the consumer expenditure data for all the terms are collected from 30-day recall period.

3. The estimates are based on the methodology outlined in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.

4. All India poverty ratio for the social groups is worked out from the respective NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) all-India poverty line for all population.

5. The poverty ratio among the Scheduled Tribes population in some States may be treated with caution due to the smallness of the sample households based on which the class distribution of persons have been obtained in the NSS. These States are in the rural areas. Haryana and Punjab, where the number of sample households among the Scheduled Tribes (STs) is 10 or less, and Jammu & Kashmir and Tamil Nadu, where the number of sample households is 15 or less. Similarly, in the urban areas, the States are: Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala and Punjab, where the number of sample households among the Scheduled Tribes (STs) is 10 or less, and Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand, where the number of sample households is 20 or less.

Rural road connectivity under Bharat Nirman Scheme

988. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is committed to provide road connectivity to all villages with a population of 1000 and above, under the Bharat Nirman Scheme by 2009;

(b) how much funds were spend during the first two years (2005-07) of the Bharat Nirman Scheme and in physical terms how many villages have been provided with road connectivity; and

(c) whether Government will ensure adequate availability of funds for rural road connectivity programme for the coming year and improved utilization of such funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 11,404.66 crore (Rupees eleven thousand four hundred four crore and sixty six lakhs) was spent during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. During this period (2005-07), 13831 habitations were connected through all weather roads under Bharat Nirman.

(c) All efforts are being made to ensure adquate availability of funds for rural road connectivity programme for the coming years and also to ensure improved utilization of such funds. Additional funds have been mobilized from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank as well as from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in order to augment availability of funds for this programme.

Motivation for bio-fuel plants in Maharashtra

989. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the number of farmers encouraged and motivated for the cultivation of bio-fuel plants like Jatropha in Maharashtra in wastelands and how much money has been released as motivational fund to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): As of now, Central funds have not been released to Maharashtra as motivational fund to encourage and motivate farmers for the cultivation of bio-fuel plants like Jatropha.

Land reforms policy

990. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 25 thousands protesters from over 15 States marched to Delhi, called JANADESH PADYATRA organized by EKTA PARISAD from Gwalior on 2nd October which reached the capital on 28th October, 2007 demanding early announcement of Government's land reforms policy;

(b) if so, the main demands of the protesters indicating reasons for delay in implementation thereof; and

(c) by when Government is expected to come out with clear cut land reforms policy including speedy disposal of land dispute cases, distribution of land to eligible persons and updating/computerization of land records in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, Government are aware that a 'Janadesh- 2007 Yatra' organized by the Ekta Parishad reached Delhi on 28.10.2007. The demands of the protesters, *inter-alia,* included setting up of a Land Commission; land reforms-related issues, including lowering of ceiling, registration of tenancy, etc, improvements in the systems of disposal of land-related court cases; better management of the process of updating of land records and single-window system at the tehsil level.